

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A method for routing data for an application over a highest priority, available network selected from a plurality of networks that are assigned application-specific routing priorities, the method comprising:

- receiving data of the application;
- determining the highest priority network for the application based on the assigned application-specific priorities;
- sending the received data over the highest priority network when the highest priority network is available and, when the highest priority network is unavailable, determining a next highest priority network for the application based on the assigned application-specific priorities; and
- sending the received data over the next highest priority network when the next highest priority network is available.

2. The method of claim 1, in which each of the plurality of networks is a wireless network.

3. The method of claim 1, in which the determining the highest priority network and the determining the next highest priority network are based upon at least one port number associated with the received data.

4. The method of claim 1, in which the determining the highest priority network and the determining the next highest priority network are based upon at least one IP address associated with the received data.

5. The method of claim 1, in which the determining the highest priority network and the determining the next highest priority network are based upon at least one protocol of the received data.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising storing a different priority for the highest priority network and the next highest priority network as a rule in a memory.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising applying the rule to a plurality of IP addresses.

8. The method of claim 6, further comprising subjecting the received data to the rule and ignoring, based upon a predetermined order for subjecting received data to a plurality of rules, another rule for routing data for the application.

9. A system for routing data for an application over a highest priority, available network selected from a plurality of networks that are assigned application-specific routing priorities, the system comprising:

a mobile router that receives data of the application, the mobile router comprising a port routing table containing information that specifies, based on the assigned application-specific priorities, the highest priority network for the application and a next highest priority network for the application, the mobile router sending the received data over the highest priority network when the highest priority network is available and, when the highest priority network is unavailable, the mobile router sending the received data over the next highest priority network when the next highest priority network is available.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein each of the plurality of networks is a wireless network.

11. The system of claim 9, wherein the information is at least one port number associated with the received data.

12. The system of claim 9, wherein the information is at least one IP address associated with the received data.

13. The system of claim 9, wherein the information is at least one protocol of the received data.

14. The system of claim 9, wherein the port routing table contains the information as a rule specifying a different priority for the highest priority network and the next highest priority network.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the rule specifies the priority for the highest priority network and the next highest priority network for a plurality of IP addresses.

16. The system of claim 14, wherein the received data is subject to the rule and, based upon a predetermined order for subjecting received data to a plurality of rules, another rule for routing data for the application is ignored.

17. A system for routing data for an application over a highest priority, available network from a plurality of networks that are assigned application-specific routing priorities, the system comprising:

a host network server that receives data of the application, the host network server comprising a port routing table containing information that specifies, based on the assigned application-specific priorities, the highest priority network for the application and a next highest priority network for the application, the host network server sending the received data over the highest priority network when the highest priority network is available and, when the highest priority network is unavailable, the mobile router sending the received data over the next highest priority network when the next highest priority network is available.

18. A computer readable medium storing a computer program that enables the specification of routing behavior for an application over a highest priority, available network from a plurality of networks that are assigned application-specific routing priorities, the medium comprising:

a source code segment that receives data of the application;

a port routing table containing information that specifies, based on the assigned application-specific routing priorities for the application, the highest priority network for the application and a next highest priority network for the application; and

a source code segment that sends the received data over the highest priority network when the highest priority network is available and, when the highest priority network is unavailable, that sends the received data over the next highest priority network when the next highest priority network is available.

19. The medium of claim 18, wherein each of the plurality of networks is a wireless network.

20. The medium of claim 18, wherein the port routing table comprises at least one of a port route type indicator field, an IP address field, a netmask field, a protocol type field, a port number field, and a network ID field.

21. The medium of claim 20, wherein the network ID field comprises a designator for each of the plurality of networks and an assigned priority for each of the plurality of networks.

22. The medium of claim 18, wherein the information comprises a rule specifying a different priority for the highest priority network and the next highest priority network.

23. The medium of claim 22, wherein the rule specifies the routing priorities for a plurality of IP addresses.

24. The medium of claim 22, wherein the received data is subject to the rule and, based upon a predetermined order for subjecting received data to a plurality of rules, another rule for routing data for the application is ignored.

25. The medium of claim 18, wherein the information is one of a port number associated with the received data, an IP address associated with the received data and a protocol of the received data.
26. The medium of claim 18, further comprising an availability source code segment that ascertains the availability of the plurality of networks.